

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Chapter 7 of Things Fall Apart, Achebe describes the events leading to the sacrifice of Ikemefuna. Reread the chapter, then respond to the prompt below.

In a well-organized essay, analyze how Achebe creates tension and conveys sympathy for Ikemefuna in this chapter. Focus on these details: preparation for/beginning of the journey, Ikemefuna's feelings, and his death. Then describe the effect of these techniques on you as the reader.

## Brainstorming/Outline for Essay

For each bullet point, find quotes & details from the story that help establish tension & sympathy.

### Preparations for/beginning of journey:

- Description of men's clothing & actions
- How Achebe hints at the tragedy to follow
- Contrast between the silence of the group & the noise of the village
- Sense of urgency which develops

### Ikemefuna's feelings:

- His feelings towards Okonkwo
- Use of questions to show his thoughts
- Fears about his family
- How do these help create sympathy for his situation?

*Ikemefuna's death:*

- Description of his fear
- Description of Okonkwo's actions
- Effect of Ikemefuna's last words on the reader

Outline

1. Introduction (at least 3 sentences)- Should consist of your thesis, a brief statement of the subject for each of your body paragraphs, and your thoughts on how these effects impact the reader.

Ex: In Things Fall Apart, Achebe uses many techniques to create tension & create sympathy for the death of Ikemefuna. His descriptions of the journey, Ikemefuna's feelings, & his death all help achieve his purpose. These techniques combine to have a powerful effect on the reader.

2. Body Paragraphs (at least 5 sentences each): You will need to include at least 2 quotes for each paragraph. Your paragraphs should focus on: the preparation/beginning of the journey, Ikemefuna's feelings, & his death.
3. Conclusion: Your conclusion should restate your thesis, but should focus mainly on how these techniques affect the reader.